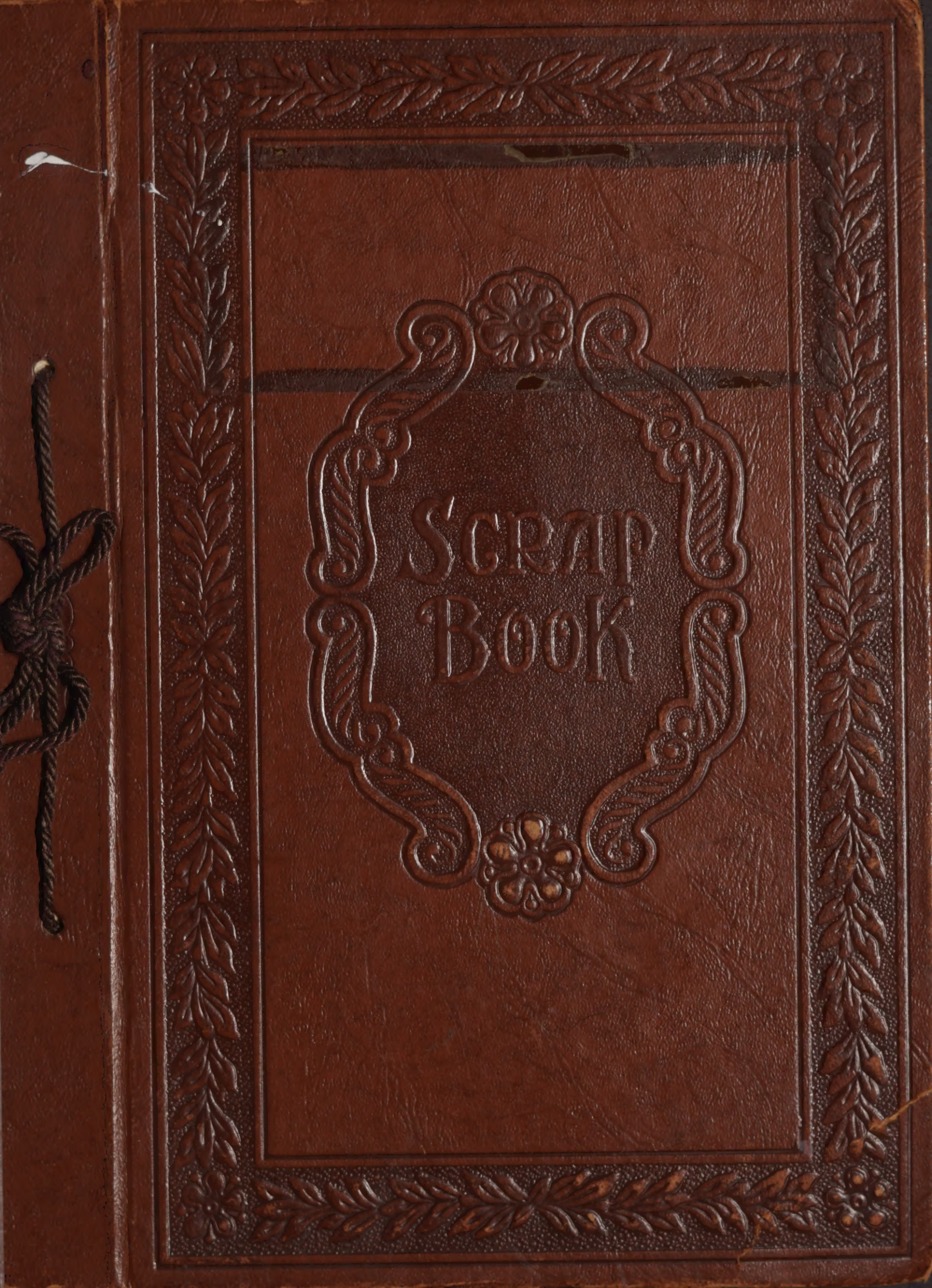
52 student clubs/organizations
1 WRMC: Scrapbook
1949-1988

BOX 2
FOLDER 1


Scrap
Book

First Year of Broadcasting.
1949-1950

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE, MIDDLEBURY, VT., SEPTEMBER 22, 1949

WMCRS Board Plans To Improve Fall Broadcasting

WMCRS, Middlebury's newly-licensed radio station, will resume broadcasting in the near future. The opening date will be announced soon by the newly chosen Board of Directors: James W. Kitchell '51, president; John D. Bowker '52, chief engineer; Laurence R. Draper '52, program director; Sidney Kay, Jr. '51, business manager; Mary A. Roberts '52, secretary; and Stuart Briggs '52, advertising manager.

Transmitting equipment has been improved with the addition of a new system of carrier-current broadcasting. With this technical advance over last year's system, reception in dormitories and fraternity houses will be much clearer. Plans are underway for a more varied and extensive schedule for the year.

This student-owned and operated station was organized last year and began broadcasting in the spring. The station's regular schedule is built on dramatic programs, classical and popular record selections, required listening for music courses, variety and comedy shows, sports reporting, early morning "wake-up" shows, world and local news summaries. All scripts are student written.

Operation of the station requires the work of engineers, programmers, script writers, talent scouts, business staff members and advertising agents. An organizational meeting will be called early this fall especially for new students.

WMCRS
750 ON YOUR DIAL

REPRESENTED BY
Sidney G. Kay, Jr.,
Business Manager

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE
MIDDLEBURY, VT.

Oct 13, 1949

Student Life OK's WMCRS Charter

WMCRS, Middlebury College radio station, has been approved by the Student Life Committee as an official college organization. New soundproofed studios will be constructed in the basement of the Student Union building by working crews employed by the college as soon as initial engineering tests are completed, James W. Kitchell, '51, staff president has announced.

Encouraged by a large turnout of students volunteering for work in all phases of operation, the station has now planned to resume daily broadcasting within two weeks. Programs will commence in the morning at 7.30 and the broadcasting day will end at 9.00 in the evening with breaks for lunch and dinner only. The programming department also expects to put on special evening shows from the Student Union lounges in which faculty and students will participate.

Programs will be sponsored by leading merchants in Middlebury and commercial copy will be solicited and written by staff members. The secretarial department will catalogue all the station's recordings and support other station divisions in all paper work involved. The publicity staff, headed by Jean M. Roberts '52, is busy stimulating interest in station programs and will publish schedules in the *Campus* and on bulletin boards as soon as programming plans are definite.

WMCRS Reports Broadcasting Delay

WMCRS will be unable to resume broadcasting as soon as previously hoped, since a crystal which sets the radio station's frequency has arrived in the mail in defective condition. An order for another crystal has been placed and as soon as the crystal has been procured and initial engineering tests made, the station will begin broadcasting activities.

The crystal is necessary to set the frequency of WMCRS at 750 kc. and must be built into the transmitter. All other phases of preparation necessary for the station to go on the air are in the process of completion and all further delay in broadcasting will depend on the delay of a new crystal.

DEC. 8 1949

Letters To The Editor

To the Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to express my very sincere gratitude to the Middlebury *Campus* for their flattering article and editorial in the December 1 issue. Unfortunately the name of John D. Bowker '52 was omitted. Had it not been for the chief engineer, WMCRS would not have been able to commence operations at all.

In addition we have had invaluable technical assistance from Professor Wissler as well as outside agencies such as the engineering departments of several commercial radio stations.

Like any new venture, we must learn from experience in order to improve our activity. I can only say that we of WMCRS shall endeavor, in every way possible, to bring the students a schedule of programs which will be both educational and entertaining.

Sincerely yours,
JAMES W. KITCHELL '51

On The Air

EDITORIAL DEC 1, 1949

Next Monday, WMCRS is scheduled to return to the air with the first regular day of broadcasting from its new studios. WMCRS is no longer the experimental peanut whistle of last spring. The station has moved from inadequate quarters off-campus to well-appointed and properly equipped studios in the basement of the Student Union Building. Broadcasting equipment has been improved and the organization has been expanded.

A series of major and minor obstacles were encountered during preparation for launching the enterprise but the staff, despite delays and reverses, appears to have coped successfully with the difficulties.

Recognized as an official college organization and lent assistance by the college in building its studios, the recently chartered station must, like all college organizations, contribute constructively to the life of the college community.

Successful operation of the new venture will require technical competence, skillful planning, intelligent programming, cooperation, imagination and, on the part of all concerned, the sustained effort demanded by a day-in, day-out broadcasting schedule.

If the WMCRS staff exploits fully the resources of the radio medium, the station can become a workshop for the development for college talent and a valuable source of information and entertainment for the college.

With the arrival of the elusive and indispensable crystal, the bestowal of the blessing of the Federal Trade Commission and assurance of the best wishes of their potential listeners, WMCRS has the go ahead sign.

MIDDLEBURY
Campus

VOL XLVI MIDDLEBURY, VT., DECEMBER 1, 1949 NUMBER 11

College Radio Station Scheduled To Begin Broadcasts Monday

WMCRS, the Middlebury college radio station, will resume activities on Monday, December 5, with a twelve hour program schedule built around recorded disc jockey shows, dramatic programs, local talent, and news and sports broadcasts. A custom made crystal necessary to set the station's frequency at 750 kc was received in the mail last Saturday, November 26, and during the week, tests of signal strength and auditions for station personnel were held in order that the station might resume broadcasting as soon as possible.

The station is now broadcasting over the college bell circuit using approximately fifteen watts of power so that radios in students' rooms receive the signal indirectly from lines strung through college dormitories. During engineering tests the signal of WMCRS could be easily heard on all types and makes of radios with or without antennas in dormitories operating under the bell system. The Federal Communications Commission has been invited to inspect existing operations as soon as possible and a careful check has been made to make certain that the station does not exceed effective radiation.

Studio space was secured in the basement of the Student Union building and soundproofed studios were completed by college carpenters last week. The entire studio plan was drawn up by James Kitchell '51, president and Sidney Kay '50, business manager in conjunction with Mr. Kreinheder, superintendent of buildings and grounds.

An ambitious program schedule has been set up by Larry Draper '52, program director, and staff. Programs will be broadcast from the two studios, control room, north and south lounges of the Student Union building and the college chapel. Both recorded and live shows will be presented. As soon as possible, transcription turntables will be secured so that transcribed shows featuring Hollywood stars may be heard by the students. The weekly program schedule for WMCRS will be posted in all dormitories and printed in the *Campus*. Recordings will be used from the station's files, the music studios, and Doc's Shop. Scripts will be done by students themselves.

Publicity is handled by Mary A. Roberts '52 and posters advertising different shows, news releases and schedules are the job of the publicity staff. Stuart Briggs '51, advertising manager of the station, and his staff have secured sponsorship of shows by leading merchants in Middlebury.

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE, MIDDLEBURY, VT., FEBRUARY 9, 1950

WMCRS Expands Broadcast Range

The signal of Middlebury College's new radio station, WMCRS, has been strengthened through the acquisition of new equipment. The listening audience now includes all the fraternities houses and all dormitories.

Latest addition to the program schedule is the current series of sports broadcasts from the Memorial Field House through a direct line to the scene of play. Jim Kitchell and Malcolm McGregor team up on the hockey play-by-play and Ken Nourse and Bud Mulroy are handling the basketball home games. Wire obtained for the radio station by Prof. Benjamin Wissler and the work of John Bowker, chief engineer, and several of the radio staff have made the current sports broadcasts possible.

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE, MIDDLEBURY, VT., FEBRUARY 23, 1950

WMCRS

SPECIAL CARNIVAL FEATURES

Thursday, February 23

12.00-12.15	Schedule of events for the day
3.25	Norwich hockey game
5.45- 6.00	Ski results
10.30-12.00	Musical interlude

Friday, February 24

8:00- 8:15	Schedule of events for the day
12.15-12.30	Ski results
3.25	Williams hockey game
5.45- 6.00	Ski results
1:00- 1:45	(a.m.) After the Ball music

Saturday, February 25

8:00- 8:15	Schedule of events for the day
12.15-12.30	Ski results
5.45- 6.00	Ski results
12:00-12:45	(a.m.) Music

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE, MIDDLEBURY, VT., MARCH 9, 1950

WMCRS

TUES. EVENING

7.00- 7.15	Tune Up Time
7.15- 7.30	Club News with Sarah Pettibone
7.30- 8.00	Radio Playhouse with Joan Shaw
8.00- 8.15	The Faculty Speaks
8.15- 8.30	The S.A.A. Show (Current Events)
8.30- 9.00	Dance Parade

WED. EVENING

7.00- 7.15	Easy Listening with Dotty Kingsley
7.15- 7.30	The Campus Crowd
7.30- 8.00	Parade of Hits with Bill Brackett
8.00- 8.30	Stump the Profs with Joan Beattie
8.30- 9.00	Dance Parade

THURS. EVENING

7.00- 7.15	Evening Varieties with the Three of a Kind
7.15- 7.30	Tune Up Time
7.30- 8.00	Spinner Sanctum
8.00- 8.30	Spotlite Revue featuring college talent
8.30- 9.00	Dance Parade

FRI. EVENING

7.00- 7.15	Wally Hubbard at the Keyboard
7.15- 7.30	The Campus Crowd
7.30- 7.45	Sports Preview with Ken Nourse and Bud Mulroy
7.45- 8.00	Dance Time
8.00- 8.30	Record Forum with Fred Lake
8.30- 9.00	Dance Parade

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE, MIDDLEBURY, VT., MARCH 23, 1950

Station Plans New Programs, Hours

WMCRS, the college radio station, has extended its broadcasting schedule to include late evening all-request programs until 12:30 p.m. on Saturdays and 11:30 p.m. on all other evenings except Sunday and Monday. Listeners may call 359-J if they wish to hear a particular number played during the evening.

The control room of the station studio has been completely rebuilt in order to facilitate broadcast procedure. New turntables acquired from the Music Studios and the United States Army will enable the use of all three types—33⅓, 45 and 78 r.p.m.—of recordings as well as transcriptions. A completely new control board as well as record shelves have also been built.

New programs soon to be initiated on the college radio station include "Telephone Quiz" and "Make a Date." "Telephone Quiz" is built around telephone calls to students who are awarded prizes from sponsors for identifying numbers played on the program correctly.

Pocketbook Dictionary Of Local Terms

MAR. 30, 1950

WMCRS: The college radio station, devoted to local and national news, as well as the finer things, such as *Rag Mop* (with vocal and percussion accompaniment by the disc jockey), and Tchaikovsky's Fifth Symphony, interrupted in mid-movement by the commercial.

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE, MIDDLEBURY, VT., MAY 11, 1950

H. Melchior Elected WMCRS President

Herbert R. Melchior '52 was elected president of the Middlebury College radio station at a meeting held last week to select the station officers for the year 1950-51.

Other officers elected to serve for the coming year include Margaret B. Schlumpf '53, secretary; Lawrence B. Warnock '53, station manager; William S. Brackett '53, production director; John D. Bowker '52, chief engineer; Stuart M. Briggs '51, publicity head; Gordon S. Ross '51, business manager; and Diane K. Stoddard '51, advertising manager.

Concluding its first year of college broadcasting, WMCRS can look back on a year of expansion and improvements in all directions. When the station began to broadcast last spring from a bedroom study in the home of John Bowker, the staff consisted of two people working with homemade equipment. Reception was generally poor, the range limited to only a few houses, and the broadcasting day was only five hours long.

Today WMCRS has a new set of studios in the basement of the Student Union Building valued at $1,000. Its original $40 worth of equipment has been improved and increased until the station's facilities are now worth approximately $2,000.

During the past year several new features have been added to the variety of programs offered by the station. Among the new features are telephone quizzes, the "Make a Date" program and a special show devoted to Dixieland jazz. One of the outstanding achievements of the station this year has been the broadcasting of sports events direct from the Memorial Field House.

Next year WMCRS plans to add further improvements to the station by increasing the capacity of the station, the variety and quality of the programs, and by adding new features for the enjoyment of the college radio audience.

MAY 11, 1950

WMCRS

7.30-8.00 a.m.
The Daybreakers with Lee Harscheid and Al Gussow.

10.00-10.30 a.m.
Strictly Instrumental with Ernie Gilmont and Janet Bradley.

10.30-11.30 a.m.
Radio Orchestra Hall.

11.30-12.00a.m.
Platter Preview with Stu Briggs—Mon., Wed., Fri.
The Bandbox with John Bowker—Tues., Thurs., Sat.

12.00 M.
Local and World News.

12.05-12.15 p.m.
Music at Midday.

1.15-1.45 p.m.
Pre-Lab Listening.

1.45-2.00 p.m.
Crooner's Corner.

2.00-3.30 p.m.
Melody Matinee.

3.30-4.30 p.m.
Required Listening for Music Students.

4.30-5.00 p.m.
4.30 Express with Wally Miner—Mon., Wed., Fri.
Club 750 with Marg Miller—Tues., Thurs.

5.00-5.15 p.m.
Requestfully Yours and Wally Hubbard.

5.15-5.30 p.m.
Classics in Music with Larry Cline—Mon., Wed., Fri.
Classics in Literature with Irene McLoughlin—Tues., Thurs.

5.30-5.45 p.m.
Guest Artist—Mon., Wed., Fri.
Jazz As You Like It—Tues., Thurs.

News In Paragraphs

The studios of W. M. C. R. S. will remain open during Senior Week for the benefit of seniors and their guests.

WMCRS

WMCRS has announced the program schedule for the week beginning Friday, May 13. The station has a frequency of 750 kilocycles on the radio dial and will broadcast during the following hours:

FRIDAY, MAY 13

A.M.
7.25-7.55 "The Daybreakers" with Sid Kay and Alan Gussow

P.M.
1.00-1.25 "Pre-lab Listening"—music, news, and daily announcements
4.30 "Record Rendezvous" with Ralph Eddy
5.00 "Classics in Literature"
5.15 "Jazz Jamboree" with Stuart Briggs

SUNDAY, MAY 15

P.M.
3.00 Special broadcast—"Triple Trio"
3.15 Wally Hubbard at the piano

MONDAY, MAY 16

A.M.
7.25 "The Daybreakers"

P.M.
1.00 "Pre-lab Listening"
4.30 "Record Rendezvous"
5.00 "Classics in Literature"
5.15 "Jazz Jamboree"

TUESDAY, MAY 17

A.M.
7.25 "The Daybreakers"

P.M.
1.00 "Pre-lab Listening"
4.30 "Club 750" with Fred Lake
5.00 "Just Easy Listening" with Claire Dufault

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18

Same as Monday

THURSDAY, MAY 19

Same as Tuesday except for "Music for Relaxation" with Nelson Shafer at 5.00 p.m.

One, Two, Three ....

END OF FIRST YEAR.

W M C R S 750 on your dial
STUDENT UNION BUILDING
MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE
MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT

May 14, 1950.

Mrs. Alma Kitchell

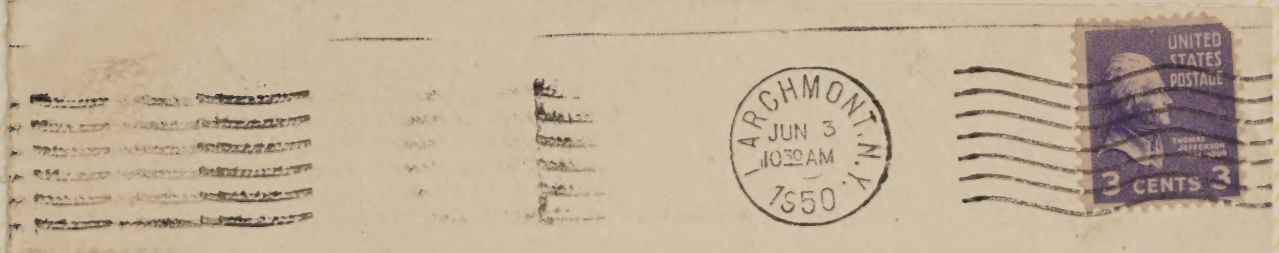
TELEPHONE - MIDD 359-J

WMCRS promises to pay to Mrs. Alma Kitchell the sum of one hundred and thirty-five dollars ($135) in repayment of a loan made to this organization on the above date. This payment will be made at the earliest possible date.*

WMCRS
Sidney J. Kay Jr.
BUSINESS MANAGER

*Earliest possible date refers to payment prior to July 1, 1950.

Paid in full
June 1, 1950.



Mr. Sidney J. Kay, Jr.
Business Manager
33 E. Grand St.
Mt. Vernon,
New York

~~WMCRS~~
~~Middlebury College~~
~~Middlebury~~
~~Vt.~~

Alma Kitchell

68 NORTH CHATSWORTH AVENUE
LARCHMONT, NEW YORK

June 3, 1950

Dear Sidney:

Your letter with check enclosed for payment of the loan to WMCRS was a pleasant surprise. I had not expected that your sponsors would be so cooperative in the matter of their bills.

My sincere congratulations to you and the staff of WMCRS for accomplishing a truly outstanding objective within six months.

I am proud to have been with you all at your Radio luncheon and to have had a very small part in your pleasure and satisfaction.

My best wishes always,

Cordially

Alma Kitchell

Sidney J. Kay
Business Manager
WMCRS.
Middlebury, Vt.

KALEIDOSCOPE

150th

ANNIVERSARY

100

WMCRS

It was not long ago that when a college radio was tuned to 750 all that came out of the speaker was a hum. Today there is a different story; the college students now maintain their own radio station that broadcasts about twelve hours a day over 750.

The station was founded on May 1, 1949, in a chicken coop on lands adjacent to the college. At its inception the station broadcast but five hours a day and could only be received in a few buildings near the chicken coop. The original staff was composed of two college men who were very much interested in radio. By the time college closed in 1949 for the summer vacation the station had made notable gains. Men had been added to the staff and new equipment had been purchased. It was going to be almost impossible, however, to operate the station from an unheated chicken coop the coming winter; so when the college opened in the fall, work had already begun on the new studios in the basement of the Student Union building.

During the 1949-50 season the station expanded greatly. The new studios now consist of three sound proof rooms. The control room is located between the two studios and has large glass panels that enable the engineers to signal the studios. The station put on a drive to enlist new members for broadcast and maintenance work and by the end of the academic year there were forty staff members. Many improvements were made during the year. New turntables were installed and new record racks were set up adding greatly to the efficiency of the station.

Standing: Draper, Briggs, Bowker, Kay, Borst.
Seated: Prof. Wissler, Kitchell.

ONE OF THE FOUNDERS (top) and the President (bottom) take their stand at the mike.

The fall of 1950 found the station with many new and better facilities. A new transmitter had been installed in the spring of the same year thus increasing the range of the station to all the college buildings and to part of the town. The radio station now gets the New York Times' *News* via Western Union; new microphones have added to the greater clarity over the air; new transcribed programs add to the variety of the schedule. The studios also have been repainted and a new control board has just been finished.

It is worthy to note that the first radio station or club here at Midd is also one of the best run and most prosperous of the campus organizations.

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE SESQUICENTENNIAL 1800~1950

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE - 150th Year

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT - MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT

May 16, 1950

Mr. Sidney G. Kay, Jr., Business Manager,
WMCRS Studios,
Middlebury College,
Middlebury, Vermont

Dear Sidney:

In acknowledging receipt of your check for $300.28 in final payment for the construction expense on the WMCRS studios, I want most sincerely to congratulate you and your organization for the splendid work you have done and particularly for your fine sense of responsibility. I wish you continued success in this important student organization.

With best wishes to you,

Cordially yours,

Samuel S. Stratton

Samuel S. Stratton

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE
MIDDLEBURY
VERMONT

OFFICE OF THE BUSINESS MANAGER

May 17, 1950

Mr. Sidney G. Kay, Jr.
Painter Hall 101-2
Middlebury College
Middlebury, Vermont

Dear Mr. Kay:

President Stratton has turned over to me your check for $300.28 which completes the payment on the work done by the College for station W. M. C. R. S.

I am extremely sorry that illness prevented my attending your Sunday dinner, as I had looked forward to meeting with you and the staff. I should also have liked to find out if I had the stamina to stand the shock of receiving this check.

Seriously though, it is no surprise to have you pay this, since we have been much impressed by the quality and calibre of those on the staff and I believed sincerely they would carry out any obligations they incurred.

Our very best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely yours,

Irwin K. French

Irwin K. French
Business Manager

IKF/sh

April, 1988

Dear WRMC Alumna/Alumnus,

Greetings from Proctor Hall, the home of WRMC-FM! I am happy to tell you that WRMC is still entirely student run, well funded by the College and operating smoothly.

During the last several years, one of the problems the station has encountered is the lack of continuity between each successively elected Board of Directors. Every December there is an election for positions on the board, and although there are no rules governing the number of terms a board member may serve, there is a large turn over from year to year. This turn over has made the station more oriented toward short-term goals. The big picture questions are often overlooked.

Another problem is the little contact this small rural college has with urban centers, the main areas for the radio media. Being out of touch with urban centers has both good and bad effects. We do have the great fortune of being in an area that is conducive to experimentation, which allows the station to grow and provide an alternative to the various commercial stations. But a radio station in rural Vermont also has the disadvantage of being outside of much of the innovation and changes that take place in the radio industry.

The present Board of Directors has expressed the desire to look into the possibility of creating a pool of advisors to the station, made up of WRMC alumni and alumni who have pursued careers in communications, recording and related areas to share some of their insights and experience with us. This alumni resource group could be tapped for advice on both long-term projects and the day to day operation of the station.

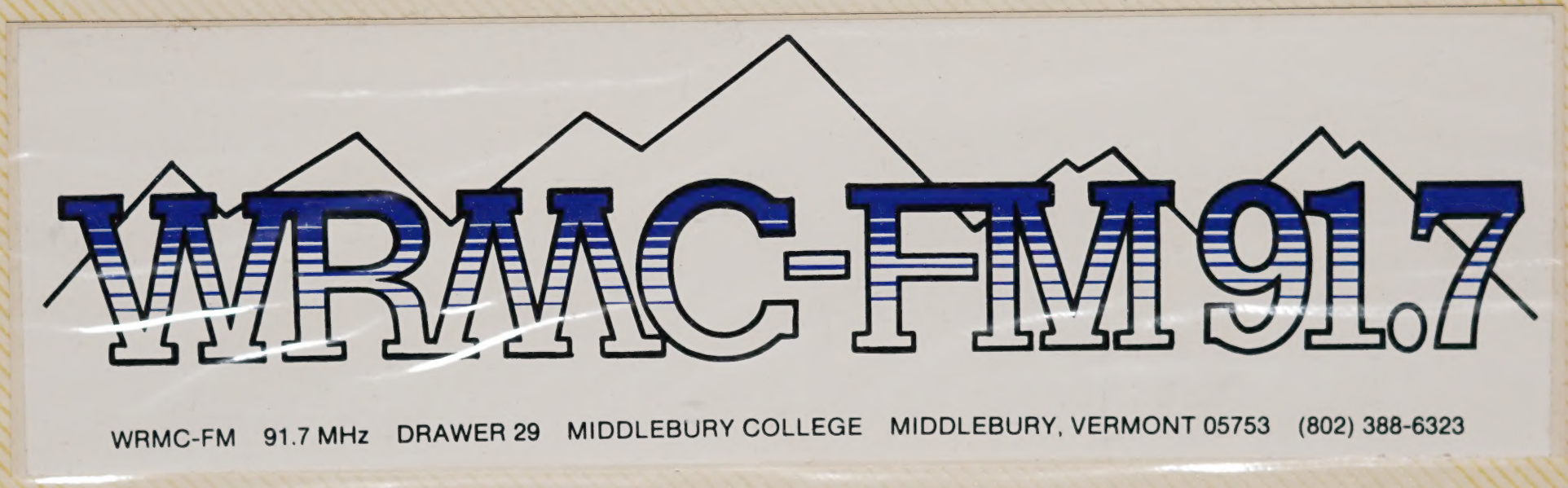
Are you interested in serving as a resource person for WRMC? If so, please fill out the inclosed reply card and let us know your particular area of interest. If you have any questions about this project, please feel free to contact me at the address or telephone number below or at my dorm room phone (802) 388-3711 ex 6578.

I look forward to hearing from you soon,

Chris Cahill '89
Station Manager

WRMC-FM

WRMC-FM 91.7 MHz DRAWER 29 MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT 05753 (802) 388-6323



WRMC-FM 91.7 MHz DRAWER 29 MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT 05753 (802) 388-6323